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May 11, 2004

TO:

Commissioner for

Patents

Attn: Examiner H. GUTMAN

Patent Examining Corps

Facsimile Center

Washington, D.C. 20231

FROM:

OUR REF:

8373.322US01

CURTIS B. HAMRE

TELEPHONE:

RESTRICTION RESPONSE

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Total pages, including cover letter: 2

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Applicant: Serial No.:

Satoru Kawabe 10/716126

Filed:

11/17/2003

Group Art Unit:

3612

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MAY 1 4 2004

S/N 10/716126

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:

Satoru Kawabe

Examiner:

H. GUTN

Serial No.:

10/716126

Group Art Unit:

3612

Filed:

November 17, 2003

Docket No.:

8373.322US01

Title:

VEHICLE FLOOR STRUCTURE

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.6(d):

I hereby certify that this paper is being transmitted by facsimile to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on May 12, 2004.

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Mail Stop AMENDMENT Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Commissioner:

In response to the Restriction Requirement dated April 13, 2004, Applicant elects Species A, sub-species A3, Figure 8, i.e. claims 1-3, without traverse. Claim I is generic. Applicants reserve the right to pursue the remaining species by appropriate means in the future, such as by divisional application.

Respectfully Submitted,

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.

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Dated: May 12, 2004

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CHamre:lad